# SIGMA STAR

The newsletter for alumnae and friends of Sigma Chapter of Alpha Delta Pi at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

#### -Fall 2020

### ADPi's All-Star Nursing Student Olivia Wight '17 Shares Sigma's Values on Front Lines of COVID-19

Because of the strong, accomplished, and promising women I have befriended in Sigma Chapter, my ADPi experience has been the best part of my life so far. It has been such an honor to grow and study alongside of them. Last year, I was the recruitment and marketing vice president. Working through that role has taught me much about my strength, determination, and my ability to persevere. All those traits have helped me immensely throughout this pandemic.

These traits help me get through my nights at work. I am a nursing student at the University of Illinois and decided it was my duty to use my knowledge and skillset to help others during the COVID-19 crisis. I now work as a nursing assistant at Good Samaritan Hospital in Downers Grove. I have spent countless nights on our COVID unit, helping those who can no longer help themselves. It is my strength, my determination, and my ability to persevere that have helped me while I work on the frontlines against COVID-19.

I can't lie, there have been some stressful nights where I feel beaten down and exhausted and questioned myself and my

career choices. Some nights I even wonder if what I'm doing is making a difference at all. When I'm having these thoughts, I look around at the nurses who are working day in and day out, trying to help save these patients. I look at them and I recognize that I love what I'm doing and what I'm studying. I remember that I am making a difference in these patients' lives. I can put in perspective that I'm working on the frontlines of this pandemic and that it takes a lot of strength to put myself at risk every time I go to work. It's no wonder I am stressed out.

Throughout these unprecedented times, my ADPi sisters have really helped me work through these thoughts. The roommates I lived with in the chapter house have been there for me, and I am so grateful to them. It is so promising to know that I have an entire chapter standing behind me, as well as an entire organization. I know women from all across the country who are standing with their sisters on the frontlines. It truly is one of the greatest feelings to know you are supported by so many.

Love & Violets, **Olivia Wight '17** 





# **Introducing Housing Corporation Interim President Jana Pottorff Mitchell '83**

'83 as the Sigma Housing Corporation interim president. Jana previously served as treasurer for two-plus years and is excited to help bring a new buzz of energy to Sigma.

"My goal is to bring more TLC to the chapter house and sisterhood," Jana said. "It's important to keep the charm and heritage of our home in Urbana while modernizing it to better meet the needs of the current and future generations."

The memories Jana made during her Sigma undergraduate experience have shaped her life in

We are pleased to introduce Jana Pottorff Mitchell several ways. She'll never forget going on her very first flight with nine of her sisters and the

> trip with them to watch the 1984 Rose Bowl. Jana has had the travel bug ever since.

"I love to travel and have been to 49 countries. I love scuba diving and have logged over 300 dives, even though I didn't learn to swim until I was 30," Jana said. "I am an avid Illinois sports

fan, especially men's basketball. I'm a season ticket holder for football and men's basketball and make the seven-hour round trip from my home for most games. My name on Twitter is Crazy Illini Lady, @janascuba."

Jana also applied what she learned from Sigma to lead an impressive 30-year career in accounting and finance. She began her career as a CPA with Ernst & Young in St. Louis before moving on to Pepsi Cola and Bristol-Myers Squibb. During her 23 years at Bristol-Myers Squibb and its spinoff, Mead Johnson Nutrition, she advanced through 12 different roles across various areas of finance and multiple geographies.

Since "retiring," Jana has served as an independent consultant and seasonal tax professional. Jana also serves as president-elect on the Board of United Caring Services in Evansville, Indiana, where she resides with her husband, Pat, and dogs, Scuba and Eli.



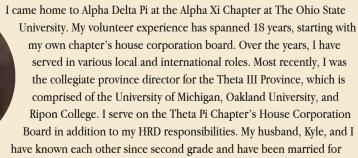
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## Meet Director of Residence Life Brianna Anderson '08



I came home to Sigma Chapter in 2008 and returned to the University of Illinois in 2016 to pursue my Ph.D. in human development and family studies, which I will be completing this fall. I am excited to begin my fourth year as the director of residence life and fifth year as member development advisor with Sigma. Although this school year will look a little different than in the past, I am looking forward to building a community with the women spending the 2020-21 academic year at 1202 W. Nevada. I am consistently surprised by the resilience of our members and have no doubt in my mind that they will come together and create memories that will last a lifetime, while also supporting each other and helping each other grow.

## Introducing Northern Region Housing Resource Director Melissa Felts



almost 16 years. We have two children, Kyle II (11 years old) and Madison

(5 years old), and a puppy named Izzy. We live in Lansing, Michigan, where I am a special education teacher and my husband is an engineering manager. I look forward to serving Alpha Delta Pi in this new role. Feel free to contact me any time at adpi.hrd.north.b@gmail.com.

## **A Glimpse at Virtual Recruitment**

Due to the global pandemic, formal recruitment is going to look a lot different this year. Director of Primary Recruitment **Sarah Cohen '18** and I are working together to establish a solid guideline for virtual recruitment. PHC has announced Open House will merely include PNMs viewing short videos about each house before receiving their list back for first invite. It might be a little weird to have breakout rooms instead of in-person preference ceremony, but we're so excited to set a new precedent for virtual recruitment.

Love & Violets, Madi Lebovitz '18 Vice President of Marketing

### **Chapter Officers**

President Joslin Peck '18 sigma.adpi@gmail.com

Vice President of Operations Sarah Sullivan '19

Operations Specialist Olivia Luck '18

Director of Alumnae Engagement, Archivist Janie Huber '17

Vice President of Finance Julie Kim '18

Finance Specialist Natalie Miodowski '18

Merchandise Chairwoman Olimpia Krezalek '18

Director of Facility Management Anna Roberts '18

Vice President of Membership Experience Kate Heffner '19

Director of New Member Experience Sara Ryan-Jetha '18

Sisterhood Program Specialist Jacklyn Schlender '18

Director of Ritual Education Sammie Kern '19

Vice President of Marketing Lauren Cualoping '18 Madi Lebovitz '18 sigma.rvp@gmail.com Leadership

Director of Primary Recruitment Sarah Cohen '18 sigma.frc@gmail.com Director of Public Relations Sofia Lavelli '18

Recruitment Analyst Emilia Wojcikowski '17

Vice President of Member Development Abbey Brown '18

Director of Academic Affairs Sam Cadagin '18

Chaplain Bridget Marshall '19

Vice President of Event Management Grace Stinites '18

Music Education and Wellness Specialist Betsy Meyer '18

External Director of Philanthropy Sydney Limon '19

Internal Director of Philanthropy Taylor Wills '18

Community Service Specialist Jada Coakley '18

Chapter Foundation Ambassador Kiley Fletcher '19

Vice President of Public Relations Lauren Cualoping '18

Leadership Engagement Specialist Lauren Komrska '17



#### **Pride in ADPi** Joslin Peck '18 Prepared to Take Sigma to New Heights as Chapter President

My name is **Joslin Peck '18** and I am grateful to be Sigma's chapter president for 2020. I'm a rising junior, majoring in human development and family studies with a concentration in family studies. My aspiration is to attend graduate school and become a licensed marriage and family therapist. I have always wanted to have a career where every day I could do something to help people, and I look forward to the opportunity to do so.

I previously served as the spirit chairwoman and enjoyed sharing my excitement for the chapter with others in any way possible. I knew very early on that I wanted Sigma to become an even larger part of my life and admired those who represented our chapter. Being given the opportunity to serve Sigma is something that I hold very dearly.

Outside of my involvement in Alpha Delta Pi, I am a member of the Counseling Center Paraprofessional Program, Human Development and Family Studies Ambassadors, Illinois Student Council on Family Relations, Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society, and the ACES James Scholar Program. These opportunities throughout campus have helped me to grow further professionally,

socially, and academically.

As we are taught throughout our time as Alphas, the diamond badge represents the four values that Alpha Delta Pi is built on. As a Delta, I have discovered that in order to improve the experiences of members, the value that remains at the forefront is sisterhood. I find it important that each day I serve Sigma with the driving force to do what is best for our sisters.

I have always been a person who cares deeply and puts others' needs over my own. This has driven my career path, countless extracurricular activities, and has only begun to shape my experiences in Alpha Delta Pi. I have gained strength in support

from my sisters and found courage in representing Sigma in this way.

For the remainder of my presidential term, I plan to grow in this area and take even larger action in the best interest of my sisters. By focusing on and creating an even more inclusive atmosphere within our chapter, our

sisterhood will improve. I look forward to growing and adapting to the world around me and being a voice for others who haven't yet gained the courage to speak out for what they believe.

Love & Violets, Joslin Peck '18 Chapter President sigma.adpi@gmail.com

## Celebrate Sigma's Centennial by Buying an Ornament Today!

Sigma's 100th anniversary ornament can be yours for a donation of \$50 or more. Your gift will help to offset the many COVID-19 related expenses. It is a wonderful keepsake to hang on your tree or set on a shelf.

Donations can be submitted through sigmaofadpi.com or by mailing checks made out to Sigma of Alpha Delta Pi Building Corporation.

Mail to: Sigma of Alpha Delta Pi Building Corporation c/o Stephens & Stull 41 E. University Avenue, Suite 3D Champaign, IL 61820





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Help us keep our alumnae records up-to-date! Edit your member profile at *sigmaofadpi.com*, or clip this form, place it in a stamped envelope and send to:

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#### SIGMA STAR

#### Thank You to Our Recent Donors!

Caroline Bachert Amy Crowder Peterson '91 Eileen O'Shea Northcutt '82

If you would like to make a donation to Sigma, please visit sigmaofadpi.com and click "donate."

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Fall 2020

### OCTOBER 10 for Homecoming OCTOBER 18 for the Sigma Annual Meeting

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